

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINAI 00190 020149Z
ACTION SSM-05

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR TEXT)
FOR SSM
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: ROOF REPAIRS

1. E-SYSTEMS HERE HAS MAILED PROPOSAL TO WOLFE IN GREENVILLE AND ALSO TELEPHONED HIM CONCERNING SFM ROOF REPAIRS. ACCORDING TO PROPOSAL, THEY HAVE TWO OFFERS FROM ISRAELI CONTRACTORS GIVING DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF COSTS. ESY PROPOSES COMPLETE REROOFING OF THE OPERATIONS BUILDING, THE COMMUNITY CENTER AND THE POWER PLANT. THE ESTIMATED COST IS \$15,723 WHICH INCLUDES A 5 PERCENT CONTINGENCY FACTOR.

2. THEY RECOMMEND WITHHOLDING REPAIRS FOR THE ADMIN BUILDING, THE FIRE STATION, AND THE LIVING MODULES UNTIL THE FALL OF 1978. IN GENERAL, THE BASIC LIVING MODULES ARE WATER TIGHT, HOWEVER, WHERE PORCHES, CONNECTING BATHROOMS AND OTHER ADDITIONS HAVE BEEN MADE WATER IS A PROBLEM. THE ADMIN BUILDING & FIRE STATION ALSO HAVE FAULTY ROOFS. GIVEN OUR UNCERTAIN FUTURE THIS RECOMMENDATION MAY MAKE SENSE BUT IN MY OPINION, SFM IS LIKELY TO BE HERE AT LEAST THROUGH ANOTHER RAINY SEASON, SINCE THESE REPAIRS WILL BE NECESSARY AT SOME STAGE, A STRONG ARGUMENT CAN BE MADE FOR DOING THE ENTIRE JOB NOW: A) WE WOULD NOT HAVE TO REPEAT THE COORDINATION OF FINDING ACCOMMODATION, ETC. LATER
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IN THE YEAR, B) A GOOD PART OF THE RAINY SEASON STILL REMAINS;
C) THE FORTY PERCENT INFLATION RATE IN ISRAEL WILL SUBSTANTIALLY RAISE THE COST OF FUTURE WORK. ACCORDING TO FIGURES SUBMITTED IT WOULD COST ABOUT \$17,000 MORE TO REROOF THESE ADDITIONAL BUILDINGS. IF WE CAN AFFORD IT, LETS SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SOLVING THIS PROBLEM ONCE AND FOR ALL.

3. IN CONSIDERING THE E-SYSTEMS PROPOSAL, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT SFM HAS MADE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO INTEREST ISRAELI CONTRACTORS AND THE TWO BIDS SENT TO GREENVILLE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCAL CONTRACT INTEREST. THE CONTRACTOR PROPOSED BY ESY WILL GUARANTEE HIS WORK FOR FIVE YEARS. ALSO, THIS CONTRACTOR IS RECOMMENDED BY THE EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV AND HIS WORK FOR THE USG THERE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY. WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO COMPARE THIS OFFER WITH PRIOR E-SYSTEMS ROOFING PROPOSALS BUT WE SUSPECT THAT THIS IS THE BEST PRICE THAT WE ARE LIKELY TO GET FROM AREA CONTRACTORS.

4. IF SSM DECIDES TO GO AHEAD WITH THE PARTIAL REROOFING OR WITH THE WHOLE JOB, WE ANTICIPATE THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM NOW FINDING ACCOMMODATION FOR LABOR FORCE AT NEARBY ISRAELI LOCATION. HUNT

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